

Application No. 10/039,947
SD-6858 Moore

REMARKS

Status of the Claims

- Claims 2-30, 32-37, 39-43, 46-54, and 56-66 are pending.
- Claims 2-22, 30, 34-37, 39-43, 46-52, 54 and 56-65 are allowed.
- Claims 23-29, 32, 33, 53 and 66 are rejected.

Current Amendments to the Claims

- Claim 23 was amended to depend from claim 39.
- Claim 24 was amended to depend from claim 23.
- Claim 27 was amended to depend from claim 26.
- Claim 28 was amended to depend from claim 23.
- Claim 32 was amended to depend from claim 39.

Allowable Claims

Applicants gratefully acknowledge the allowance of claims 2-22, 30, 34-37, 39-43, 46-52, 54 and 56-65.

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Claim Rejections under 35 USC 103(a)

I. Claims 23, 26, 53

Claims 23, 26 and 53 were rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over the *Galbacs et al.* publication entitled "Removal of the arsenic content of drinking water" or the *Galbacs et al.* publication entitled "Ammonia removal from sewage waters by magnesium salts", in view of *Vempati* (U.S. Patent No. 6,790,363).

In response, applicants have amended claim 23 to depend from allowed claim 39. Hence, claim 23 (as currently amended) is now allowable.

Claims 26 and 53 depend from allowable claim 23. Hence, claims 26 and 53 are allowable.

II. Claims 23, 24, 25, 28, 29 and 53

Claims 23, 24, 25, 28, 29 and 53 were rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over the *Galbacs et al.* publication entitled "Removal of the arsenic content of drinking water" or the *Galbacs et al.* publication entitled "Ammonia removal from sewage waters by magnesium salts", in view of *Johnson et al.* (U.S. Patent No. 6,656,587).

In response, applicants have amended claim 23 to depend from allowed claim 39. Hence, claim 23 (as currently amended) is now allowable.

Applicants have amended claim 24 to depend from allowed claim 23. Hence, claim 24 (as currently amended) is now allowable.

Claim 25 depends from allowable claim 24. Hence, claim 25 is allowable.

Claim 28 was amended to depend from allowed claim 23. Hence, claim 28 (as currently amended) is now allowable.

Claim 29 depends from allowable claim 28. Hence, claim 29 is allowable.

Claim 53 depends from allowable claim 23. Hence, claim 53 is allowable.

III. Claims 23, 26, 27 and 53

Claims 23, 26, 27 and 53 were rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over the *Galbacs et al.* publication entitled "Removal of the arsenic

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Assignment from Robert C. Moore and D. Richard Anderson to Sandia Corporation).
Hence, the rejection under 35 USC 103 **does not meet** the necessary requirements
set forth in 35 USC 102(e) and should be withdrawn.

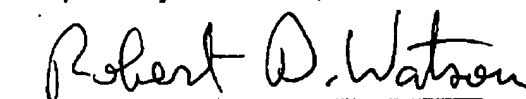
Application No. 10/039,947
SD-6858 Moore

Conclusion

Applicants have responded to each and every objection and rejection, and urge that the claims as presented and currently amended, are now in condition for allowance. Applicants request expeditious processing to issuance.

The Office is authorized to charge **Deposit Account # 19-0131** for any necessary fees regarding this response, including \$ 120 for a 1-month extension of time.

Respectfully submitted,



Robert D. Watson
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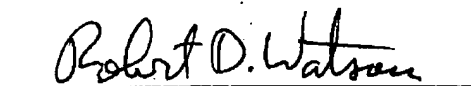
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Robert D. Watson